



Stibnite Mining District cleanup: Documents available for review. Public comments accepted through August 25, 2021.

Region 10

July 2021

You are invited to comment

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's administrative record is available for public review for upcoming Stibnite Mining District cleanup actions. This administrative record includes documents which support an Action Memorandum for removal actions to address some of the contamination at several discrete areas of the site. The Action Memorandum was issued by EPA and U.S. Forest Service on January 15, 2021. EPA invites your comments on the Action Memorandum and the supporting documents. EPA will consider all public comments and prepare a responsiveness summary. Public comments are due by **August 25, 2021**.



*East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River
flowing into the Yellow Pine Pit.*

Email comments to:

Conor Neal, EPA Project Manager
neal.conor@epa.gov

Alternatively, you may mail hard copy comments to: Conor Neal, Project Manager
EPA Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155, MS 12-D12-1
Seattle, WA 98101

The Administrative Record is available

The administrative record is available for viewing online at <https://go.usa.gov/xFcW8>

It is also available electronically at:

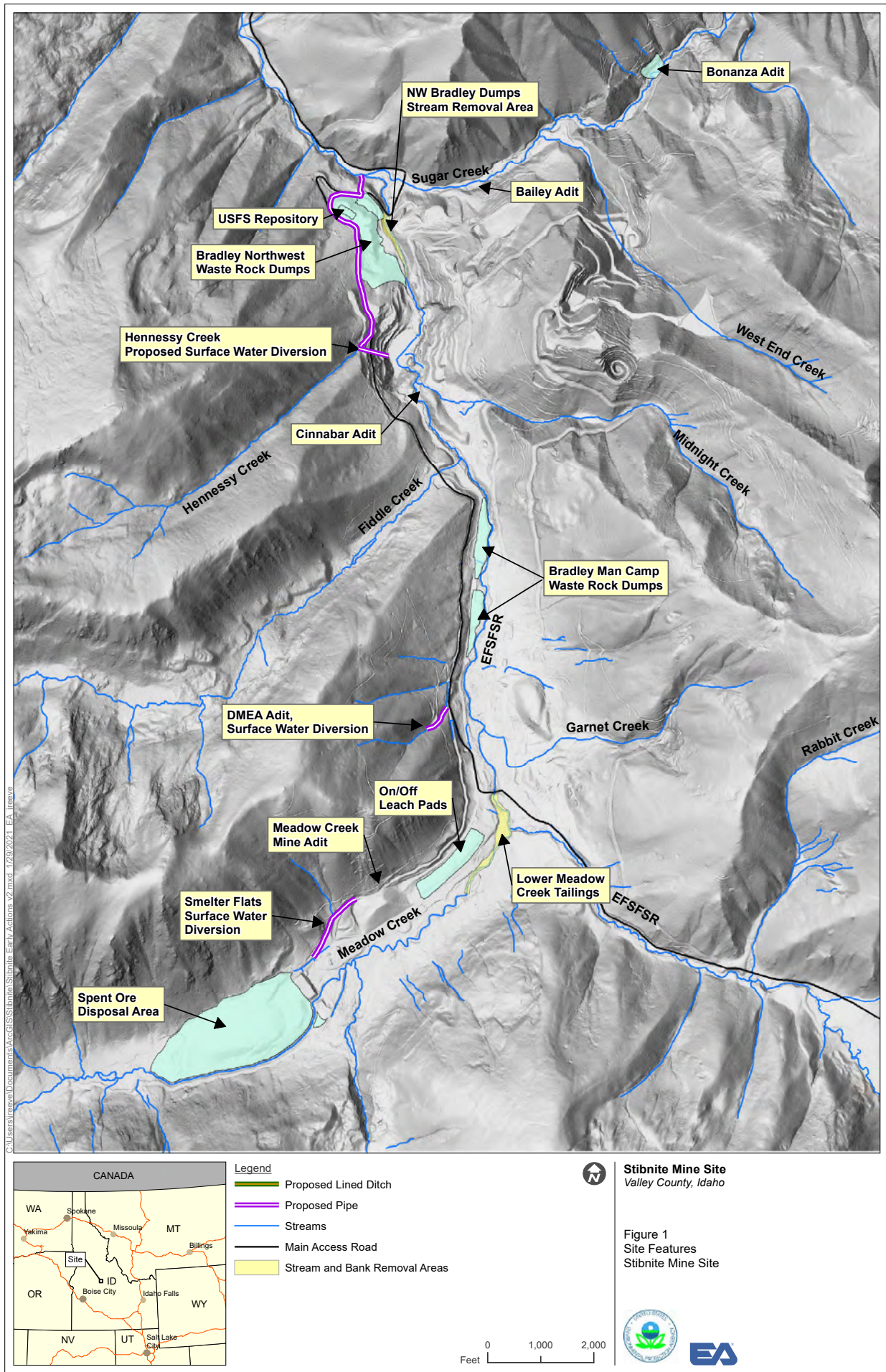
McCall Public Library

218 Park Street
McCall, ID 83638
Phone 208-634-5522

Cleanup work includes several actions

The cleanup actions address a small portion (less than 5 percent) of the overall contamination at the site. The removals to address the discrete areas of contamination will take place over the next four years. The work will be done by the potentially responsible party, Perpetua Resources, pursuant to a settlement agreement with EPA and U.S. Forest Service. The agencies will oversee the work. Onsite activities will include:

- Conduct a one-year baseline study of water flow and chemistry seeping from mine adits to help inform future actions.
- Reroute Hennessey Creek and two other streams around mine features to avoid contaminants.
- Remove 200,000 tons of mine waste from streambanks and floodplains at the Bradley Man Camp Dumps.
- Remove 100,000 tons of mine waste from the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River next to the NW Bradley Dumps. Stabilize a portion of the stream banks to prevent future erosion.
- Remove 25,000 tons of mine tailings from lower Meadow Creek. Mine waste from lower Meadow Creek and Bradley Man Camps will be placed at the existing On/Off Pads repository.



Background

The Stibnite Mining District sits along the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. It is 14 miles southeast of Yellow Pine, Idaho, in the Payette National Forest. The 3,000-acre site is on both private and public National Forest Service lands. The Nez Perce Tribe and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have treaty-reserved rights to resources within the site.

The mine produced gold, antimony, and tungsten from the 1900s to 1990s. Mining, milling, and mineral processing left behind a complicated situation. There are underground mine workings, open pits, rock dumps, tailings deposits, heap leach pads (areas where minerals were extracted), spent heap leach ore piles, a ruptured water dam, an abandoned water diversion tunnel, a mill and smelter site, and so on. Metals contaminate the area, including the river and its tributaries.

EPA and the U.S. Forest Service have overseen past environmental cleanups near Meadow Creek, the Spent Ore Disposal Area/Bradley Tailings pile, and the NW Bradley Dumps. Remaining contamination still presents a risk to people's health and the environment.

What to know

Crews will contain sediment and silt within the excavation area. They will also protect fish habitat during in-stream and near-stream work.

Traffic related to removal actions will access the site from State Highway 55, north of the town of Cascade. They will use Warm Lake Road (County Road 10-579), then Johnson Creek Road (County Road 10-413) to Yellow Pine, and from Yellow Pine to the site via East Fork Road (FR 50412, also known as Stibnite Road). Truck traffic should be minimal.

For More Information

Questions?

Conor Neal • neal.conor@epa.gov • (206) 553-0603

Kathryn Cerise • cerise.kathryn@epa.gov • (206) 553-2589

Documents and site information:

www.epa.gov/superfund/stibnite-yellow-pine

U.S. Forest Service National Environmental Policy Act review:

Brian Harris, U.S. Forest Service • brian.d.harris@usda.gov

USFS Environmental Impact Statement:

<https://go.usa.gov/xFckJ>

Other USFS documents related to the NEPA Process

Stibnite Environmental Impact:

<https://go.usa.gov/xFckW>

If you need materials in an alternative format, please contact Conor Neal at 800-424-4372, ext. 0603

 *TDD or TTY users, please call 800-877-8339 and give the operator Conor's phone number.*



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United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

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